248 to buy their farm titles with the help of the favorable flax prices on the European market. When prices dropped in the 1880's, farm buying slowed down considerably and the area under flax has since gradually declined. The counties of Petserimaa, Võrumaa and Pärnumaa are today the chief flax-growing areas.

245 Fruit- and vegetable-growing made great progress during Estonian independence. More fruit trees (apples, plums, cherries, pears) and various berries (gooseberries, raspberries, red and black currants) were planted and several factories for canning fruits and juices were
249 established. In the last years of independence Estonia started to grow sugar beets, and the production of homemade syrup helped the people over the sugar shortage during the last war.

Cattle raising, poultry, etc. In animal